Application No. 10/544233
Responsive to the office action dated August 19, 2009

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is requested in view of the above amendments and following remarks.

Claim 1 has been amended to further clarify the features of the claim. No new matter is added.

35 USC § 102 Rejections

Claims 1 and 4 are rejected under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by Itoh (US 2005/0013583). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 is directed to a reproduction sequence, in the following order, where original audio data are read out from a head block of the M data blocks in the main sequence, post-record audio data are read out in succession from the M data blocks in the additional sequence that correspond to the M data blocks in the main sequence, video data are read out from the head block of the main sequence, and original audio data and video data are read out from (M-1) data blocks in the main sequence. The claimed sequence therefore makes it possible to reproduce and output video and audio sequentially. An advantage is that even when the moving image data are large in size, if the audio, data and the post-record audio data are available, the reproduction output process can be performed even if only a part of the video data are available.

The rejection states, on page 2, that "Itoh does teach that original audio is read first as further clarified in Fig. 7 and paragraphs [0098 and 0100]." Fig. 7 and paragraph [0098] disclose an operation of "recording" data recorded in post-recording, not an operation of "reading out" data recorded in post-recording as recited in claim 1. However, Fig. 9 and paragraph [0100] of Itoh are directed to an operation of "reproducing" data recorded in post-recording. However, the sequence consists of the moving image data are read out first, followed by reproducing video and audio and then back-audio data (which corresponds to data recorded in post-recording), which is different than the sequence in claim 1.

A disadvantage of the Itoh sequence is that when the moving image data are large in size, it takes time to read out the data, and a reproduction output process cannot be performed until the video, the audio, and the back-audio data are all available. Therefore,

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Itoh neither discloses nor suggests the reproduction sequence as recited in claim 1 and the
rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 4 is allowable at least by virtue of its dependence on independent claim 1.
The rejection of this dependent claim should be withdrawn. Applicants do not concede
the correctness of the rejection.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this
case.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would advance the prosecution
of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the below-
listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE
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Dated: November 16, 2009
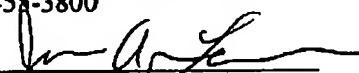
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